

Texas Rent Relief Program Updates 02-07-2023

The Texas Rent Relief (TRR) Program wishes to share with landlords, tenants, utility providers, and other interested stakeholders some important program updates:

1. Application Portal Closure and Program Funding

- In November of 2021, TRRP closed its portal to new application submissions due to the total requests for assistance exceeding all program funds available. At the time of the portal's closure, TRRP had distributed over \$2 billion in rent and utility assistance to more than 310,000 households.
- By September 2022, all TRR tenant applicants were either approved for assistance, denied due to not meeting program eligibility requirements, or denied due to the program being out of funds.
- As limited additional funds have become available from the U.S. Treasury via re-allocation, the program has continued to contact applicants who initially were notified of denial due to the program being out of funds, and has continued to process assistance for applications in the order in which they were received.
- As of February 2023, TRRP has distributed more than \$2.1 billion and has \$94M in funds remaining for direct assistance. The program continues to process previously submitted applications with remaining funds.
- Visit our [Program Dashboard](#) for up-to-date information on total program funding and an overview of households assisted.

2. Payment System Update

- To make the payment process easier for tenants and landlords, beginning February 2023, TRR will now collect all payment information as part of the online Neighborly application process and will no longer process payments through Bill.com.
- Both tenants and landlords will enter all payment information in the Neighborly application portal directly and, if approved, monitor payment status there. Providing this information will ensure prompt payment of approved applications.
- To complete the new payment profile, applicants will need to provide:
 - The name to be paid
 - If requesting payment via ACH/direct deposit: The account and routing number for the bank account where the applicant would like to receive payment if approved for assistance

- If requesting payment via check: The address where the applicant would like payment to be mailed if they are approved for assistance

Landlords will also need to provide a current W-9 and an EIN, TIN, or Social Security number. The name of the requested payee and the EIN/TIN/SSN provided must match the information on the W-9.

- If you have a pending application, please watch for texts, emails or phone calls from the program, as TRR will reach out if we need more information to process your application. Tenants and landlords must log into the Neighborly application portal and provide updated payment information.
- For more information, visit TRR's updated Payments Guide here:
<https://texasrentrelief.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/TRRP-Payment-Guide.pdf>

3. **Texas Eviction Diversion Program**

- The Texas Supreme Court Emergency Order establishing the way that Texas Courts administer the Texas Eviction Diversion Program was updated and extended through March 1, 2023, for areas where rental assistance is available. The order is available at <https://www.txcourts.gov/media/1455517/229119.pdf>.
- **Tenants sued for eviction:** Attorneys can help you understand your rights. If you are facing eviction, we encourage you to seek legal assistance, go to your eviction hearing and stay in communication with your landlord and the court. Visit <https://texaslawhelp.org/eviction-referral> or call 855-270-7655 for help understanding your options and seeking free or low-cost legal assist.
- For recently published TEDP program highlights, visit the [Texas Eviction Diversion Overview page](#).